

What is Claimed:

1. A user interface mechanism for switching among at least two modes in a media device having a media screen for displaying data relating to media content, modes of operation of the media device including a first mode for interacting with the media device when the media content relates to music and a second mode for interacting with the media content when the media content relates to image content, comprising:
 - at least one component movable between a first position corresponding to the first mode and a second position corresponding to the second mode, wherein when said at least one component is moved to the first position, the media screen of the media device is substantially shielded from view.
2. A user interface mechanism according to claim 1, wherein said image content of the second mode includes at least one of video content and image content.
3. A user interface mechanism according to claim 1, wherein when said at least one component is moved to the first position, a portion of the media screen remains unshielded from view.
4. A user interface mechanism according to claim 3, wherein the unshielded portion of the media screen displays at least one of metadata relating to music being rendered and advertising.
5. A user interface mechanism according to claim 1, wherein said at least one component includes a plurality of user interface controls for interacting with the media content.
6. A user interface mechanism according to claim 5, wherein said plurality of user interface controls for interacting with the media content include at least one of Escape, Start, Options, More, OK, Back, Forward, Play, Pause, Up, Down, Fast Forward, Reverse, Skip Forward, Skip Backwards, Menu, Left, Right, Mute, Volume Up and Volume Down functional controls.
7. A user interface mechanism according to claim 5, wherein said plurality of user interface controls is applicable to both the first and second modes.
8. A user interface mechanism according to claim 5, wherein said at least one component is swappable with at least one alternate component.

9. A user interface mechanism according to claim 8, wherein said at least one alternate component exposes a different set of user interface controls than provided by said at least one component.
10. A user interface mechanism according to claim 5, wherein said at least one component is augmentable with at least one alternate component.
11. A user interface mechanism according to claim 10, wherein said at least one alternate component at least one of (A) exposes additional user interface controls not provided by said at least one component alone and (B) alters the functionality of said plurality of user interface controls.
12. A user interface mechanism according to claim 1, wherein said at least one component includes a first component and a second component, wherein the first and second component substantially surround opposing ends of the media device, such that when the first and second components are moved substantially towards the middle of the media device from their respective ends, the media screen of the media device is substantially shielded and said at least one component is located at the first position.
13. A user interface mechanism according to claim 1, wherein said at least one component includes a first component and a second component, wherein the first and second components substantially surround opposing ends of the media device, such that when the first and second components are moved substantially away from the middle of the media device in the direction of their respective ends, the media screen of the media device is unshielded and said at least one component is located at the second position.
14. A user interface mechanism according to claim 1, wherein said at least one component includes a first component, wherein the first component substantially surrounds an end of the media device, such that when the first component is moved substantially towards the middle of the media device from the end, the media screen of the media device is substantially shielded and said at least one component is located at the first position.
15. A user interface mechanism according to claim 1, wherein said at least one component includes a first component, wherein the first component substantially surrounds an end of the media device, such that when the first component is moved substantially away from the middle of the

media device in the direction of the end, the media screen of the media device is unshielded and said at least one component is located at the second position.

16. A user interface mechanism according to claim 1, wherein the media device includes a synchronization component adapted to synchronize with a docking station whether said at least one component is in the first position or the second position.

17. A user interface mechanism according to claim 1, wherein the at least one component include a first component including the media screen, at least one roller component and a second component, wherein said first component and said second component are pivotable about an axis substantially defined by the longitudinal axis of said at least one roller component, whereby with said at least one roller component, the media screen of the first component can be arbitrarily angled with respect to the second component.

18. A user interface mechanism according to claim 1, wherein the at least one component include a first component including the media screen, at least one roller component and a second component, wherein said at least one roller component substantially operates as a hinge for said first component and said second component about which the first and second component pivot, whereby said at least one roller component includes at least one user interface control that operates by at least one of (A) turning the at least one roller component substantially about a longitudinal axis of said at least one roller component, (B) sliding the at least one roller component substantially along the longitudinal axis and (C) receiving a selection of a button control on an end of the at least one roller component.

19. A user interface mechanism according to claim 1, wherein the at least one component include a wallet structure wherein the media screen is inside the wallet structure, such that the wallet structure is in the first position when the wallet structure is closed and the wallet structure is in the second position when the wallet structure is open.

20. A portable media player comprising:

a media screen;

at least one wing for substantially covering the media screen when the at least one wing is in the closed position, wherein the media screen is revealed when said at least one wing is in the open position.

21. A portable media player according to claim 20, wherein a portion of the media screen remains visible despite the substantial covering of the media screen for the display of additional information to a user.
22. A portable media player according to claim 20, wherein said at least one wing includes user interface controls for controlling said portable media player.
23. A portable media player according to claim 20, wherein at least one of (1) a wing of the at least one wing is interchangeable with an alternate wing, wherein the alternate wing provides alternate functionality and (2) the functionality provided by a wing of the at least one wing is augmentable with a sleeve, wherein the sleeve provides alternate functionality.
24. A portable media player according to claim 23, wherein alternate functionality includes at least one of noise reduction/cancellation, Bluetooth headphone accommodation, microphone input, TV input, TV output, left handed switching of functionality, remote control functionality and a speaker.
25. A portable media player according to claim 20, wherein the bottom surface of the at least one wing is angled greater than 5 degrees from planar normal.
26. A portable media player according to claim 20, wherein said at least one wing is two wings that slide outward from the media screen to reveal the media screen in the open position, and wherein the two wings operate as a stand for the portable media player.
27. A portable media player according to claim 20, including a synchronization component that is operable to synchronize with a docking station whether said at least one wing is in the open or closed position.
28. At least one interchangeable wing for a portable media player having a media screen, including:
 - a first sliding mechanism for engaging a second sliding mechanism of the portable media player, the first and second sliding mechanisms together enabling sliding of the at least one interchangeable wing to a closed position wherein the media screen is substantially hidden and for sliding the at least one interchangeable wing to an open position wherein the media screen is revealed.

29. At one sleeve operatively coupled to at least one augmentable wing for a portable media player having a media screen wherein said at least one augmentable wing includes a sliding mechanism for sliding the at least one augmentable wing to a closed position wherein the media screen is substantially hidden and for sliding the at least one augmentable wing to an open position wherein the media screen is revealed and wherein said at least one sleeve operatively coupled to said at least one augmentable wing augments the functionality of said portable media player through said operative coupling.

30. A method for switching among at least two modes in a media device having a media screen for displaying data relating to media content, modes of operation of the media device including a first mode for interacting with the media device when the media content relates to music and a second mode for interacting with the media content when the media content relates to image content, comprising:

moving at least one component from a second position corresponding to the second mode to a first position corresponding to the first mode, whereby the media screen of the media device thereby moves from being substantially exposed to view to being substantially shielded from view.

31. A method according to claim 30, wherein said second mode is for interacting with at least one of video content and image content.

32. A method according to claim 30, whereby, as a result of the moving to the first position, the media screen of the media device becomes substantially shielded from view, but nonetheless a portion of the media screen remains unshielded from view.

33. A method according to claim 32, wherein the unshielded portion of the media screen displays at least one of metadata relating to music being rendered and advertising.

34. A method according to claim 30, further comprising interacting with the media content via a plurality of user interface controls of said at least one component.

35. A method according to claim 34, wherein said interacting includes interacting with at least one of Escape, Start, Options, More, OK, Back, Forward, Play, Pause, Up, Down, Fast Forward, Reverse, Skip Forward, Skip Backwards, Menu, Left, Right, Mute, Volume Up and Volume Down functional controls.

36. A method according to claim 34, further including swapping said at least one component with at least one alternate component.
37. A method according to claim 36, wherein said swapping exposes a different set of user interface controls than provided by said at least one component.
38. A method according to claim 34, further including augmenting said at least one component with at least one alternate component.
39. A method according to claim 38, wherein said augmenting at least one of (A) exposes additional user interface controls not provided by said at least one component alone and (B) alters the functionality of said plurality of user interface controls.
40. A method according to claim 30, wherein said moving includes moving a first component and a second component, wherein the first and second components substantially surround opposing ends of the media device, and wherein said moving includes moving the first and second components substantially towards the middle of the media device from their respective ends.
41. A method according to claim 30, further including synchronizing the media device via a synchronization component of the media device adapted to synchronize with a docking station whether said at least one component is in the first position or the second position.
42. A method according to claim 30, wherein said moving includes moving at least one of (A) a first component including the media screen relative to a second component about at least one roller component and (B) the second component relative to the first component about the at least one roller component, wherein said first component and said second component are pivotable about an axis substantially defined by the longitudinal axis of said at least one roller component, whereby said second component substantially covers said first component.
43. A method according to claim 30, wherein said moving includes moving at least one of (A) a first component including the media screen relative to a second component about at least one roller component and (B) the second component relative to the first component about the at least one roller component, wherein said at least one roller component substantially operates as a hinge for said first component and said second component about which the first and second component pivot, further including:
- interacting with the media content via at least one user interface control of said at least one

roller component, said interacting including at least one of (A) turning the at least one roller component substantially about a longitudinal axis of said at least one roller component, (B) sliding the at least one roller component substantially along the longitudinal axis and (C) receiving a selection of a button control on an end of the at least one roller component.

44. A method according to claim 30, wherein said moving includes moving at least one of (A) a first component including the media screen relative to a second component about at least one roller component and (B) the second component relative to the first component about the at least one roller component, wherein said first component and said second component are pivotable about an axis substantially defined by the longitudinal axis of said at least one roller component, whereby said second component substantially covers said first component.

45. A method according to claim 30, wherein said moving includes moving a wallet structure wherein the media screen is inside the wallet structure, and said moving includes closing the wallet structure such that media screen is shielded.

46. A computer readable medium comprising computer executable modules having computer executable instructions for carrying out the method of claim 30.

47. A computing device comprising means for performing the method of claim 30.

48. A modulated data signal carrying computer executable instructions for performing the method of claim 30.

49. A computing device including a user interface for switching among at least two modes in a media device having a media screen for displaying data relating to media content, modes of operation of the media device including a first mode for interacting with the media device when the media content relates to music and a second mode for interacting with the media content when the media content relates to image content, comprising:

means for moving at least one component from a second position corresponding to the second mode to a first position corresponding to the first mode, whereby the media screen of the media device thereby moves from being substantially exposed to view to being substantially shielded from view, wherein when said at least one component is moved to the first position, a portion of the media screen remains unshielded from view.